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VALLEY MAN INDICTED FOR ILLEGAL USE OF ANOTHER PERSON'S SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER

PHOENIX -- On October 25, 2006 a federal grand jury in Phoenix returned a six-count indictment against a Valley man, charging that between 1999 and 2005 he illegally used the Social Security number of an unnamed female. The grand jury accused Jorge Morales-Suquet of one count of making a false statement on a federal credit union application, one count of fraudulent activity in connection with identification, one count of using the Social Security number of another and three counts of making false declarations in a bankruptcy proceeding. Morales-Suquet was arrested on January 5 and made his first appearance in United States District Court on Monday, January 8, 2007.

The indictment alleges that during a hearing in Superior Court in September, 2001, Morales-Suquet admitted to the judge that the Social Security number he had been claiming as his own had not been issued to him "because I am not legally in this country." The grand jury alleges Morales-Suquet told the judge "That is only the Social Security number that I use to work with." The six counts of the Indictment pertain to Morales-Suquet's representation from 1999 to 2005 that the Social Security number belonged to him and his use of the number in June, 2002 to secure an automobile loan from Desert Schools Federal Credit Union and in April, 2005 to file a Chapter 7 petition in bankruptcy and discharge debt.

A conviction for making a false statement to a federal credit union carries a maximum penalty of 30 years, a \$1 million fine or both. The other five charges each carry a maximum penalty of five years, a \$250,000 fine or both.

An indictment is the method by which a person is charged with criminal activity and raises no inference of guilt. An individual is presumed innocent until a jury determines that a defendant's guilt has been proven beyond a reasonable doubt.

The investigation preceding the indictment was conducted by the Office of Investigations of the Social Security Administration's Office of Inspector General. The prosecution is being handled by Frank T. Galati, Assistant U.S. Attorney, District of Arizona, Phoenix.

CASE NUMBER: CR-06-0963 PHX-MHM RELEASE NUMBER: 2007-007(Morales-Suquet)